

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 08475 060906Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----083602 060908Z /10  
O R 060852Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6851  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

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EXDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, PINS, KS, US  
SUBJ: KOREAN PRESS ANNOUNCES ARRIVAL OF DOJ INVESTIGATORS

REF: A) SEOUL 8433 (DTG 050918Z OCT 77), B) SEOUL 8382  
(DTG 040848Z OCT 77)

SUMMARY: AFTERNOON PRESS BREAKS STORY THAT TWO DOJ INVESTI-  
GATORS WILL COME TO KOREA NEXT WEEK, WITH TWO OF FIVE PAPERS  
RIGHT ON THE MARK WITH "OCTOBER 15". SOME SPECULATION OF  
DIFFICULTY IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON TERMS FOR INTERROGATION.  
END SUMMARY.

1. ALL AFTERNOON VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS OCTOBER 6 CARRY SMALL,  
LOCAL, FRONT-PAGE STORIES ANNOUNCING US INVESTIGATORS  
FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ), HEADED BY ASSISTANT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL BENJAMIN CIVILETTI, WILL ARRIVE IN  
KOREA SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. GOVERNMENT SEOUL SINMUN,  
STATING DOJ INVESTIGATORS WILL ARRIVE "AROUND OCTOBER  
15" AND STAY FOR 3-4 DAYS, QUOTES A "DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER"  
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AS STATING US MAY AT FIRST SUGGEST TAKING PAK TONG-  
SON TO US FOR INVESTIGATION, IN WHICH CASE CONSULTA-  
TIONS "WILL NOT BE ENTIRELY SMOOTH". SAME SOURCE IS  
ALSO QUOTED AS PREDICTING THAT, IF US REQUESTS  
INVESTIGATION OF PAK THROUGH SEVERAL CHANNELS, SUCH  
AS THE CONGRESS AND SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,  
ROK WILL REQUEST THAT US COMBINE ALL INVESTIGATIONS

UNDER DOJ.

2. TONGA ARTICLE SECONDS ALL ABOVE, ADDING THAT PAUL MICHEL, PROSECUTOR FOR KOREAN LOBBYING AFFAIRS, WILL ACCOMPANY AAG CIVILETTI. STORY ALSO QUOTES "OBSERVERS" AS SPECULATING THAT, IF DOJ INVESTIGATORS DO AGREE TO QUESTION PAK IN SEOUL, THEY MAY THEN PRESS FOR EXCLUSIVE SESSIONS WITH PAK, WHEREAS ROK POSITION IS IT WILL ALLOW ONLY "INTERROGATION BY REQUEST". (COMMENT: LATTER TERM APPEARS TO MEAN DOJ INVESTIGATORS WOULD GIVE QUESTIONS THEY WANTED ASKED TO ROK INTERROGATORS, WHO WOULD QUESTION PAK.)

3. OTHER PAPERS' VERSIONS ALL DIFFER SLIGHTLY, AND ARE LESS COMPREHENSIVE. MINOR SINA ILBO SAYS CIVILETTI AND MICHEL WILL COME "SOMETIME NEXT WEEK", AND FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT IS EXPECTED FROM US AROUND THIS WEEKEND. INDEPENDENT CHUNGANG ILBO SAYS THEY WILL COME "AROUND OCTOBER 13TH" AND WILL HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH ROK REPRESENTATIVES, TO INCLUDE YI CHONG-WON, VICE MINISTER OF JUSTICE; HO HYONG-GU, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF PROSECUTION; MOJ; AND KIM TU-HUI, CHIEF, SECOND PROSECUTION DIVISION, MOJ. SEMI-OFFICIAL KYONGYANG SINUMUM, IN ORIENT PRESS ITEM FROM UN HEADQUARTERS, QUOTES FONMIN PAK TONG-JIN AS FEELING PERSONALLY THAT DOJ INVESTIGATORS WILL GO TO SEOUL "NEXT WEEK".  
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4. EMBASSY HAS STRONGLY PROTESTED TO ROKG VIOLATION OF UNDERSTANDING THIS MATTER WOULD BE COORDINATED PRIOR TO ANY PRESS COVERAGE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Reference:** 77 SEOUL 8433, 77 SEOUL 8382  
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**Subject:** KOREAN PRESS ANNOUNCES ARRIVAL OF DOJ INVESTIGATORS  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PFOR, PINS, KS, US, (TONGSUN PARK)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009